

## Weekly Field Memo – June 19, 2014

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### NEWS & UPDATES:

#### New Format for our TV Show!

##### Audience: All

We partnered with [RETN](#) and taken our TV show to the road! In this episode of [Education – Join the Conversation](#), we focused on school wide technology integration at St. Albans City School. Watch the video here: <http://bit.ly/1nPG1Qj>, watch past episodes here: <http://bit.ly/1Cu2qE>.

**Contact:** Angela Ross, Public Information Officer, 802-479-1240 or [angela.ross@state.vt.us](mailto:angela.ross@state.vt.us)

#### More Vermont Students Taking College Courses While Still in High School

##### Audience: All

NECN interviewed Montpelier HS senior Nick Stroutsos, VT-AOE Deputy Secretary John Fischer, and CCV President Joyce Judy about Vermont's flexible pathways and dual-enrollment initiatives. Watch the video here: <http://bit.ly/1qhSggA>.

**Contacts:** John Fischer, Deputy Secretary, [john.fischer@state.vt.us](mailto:john.fischer@state.vt.us); Debi Price, Flexible Pathways Project Manager, [debora.price@state.vt.us](mailto:debora.price@state.vt.us)

#### Norwich Educator John Minelli Receives International Award for 'Making IT Happen' in Ed Tech

##### Audience: All

During the award ceremony, Minelli was described as a tireless contributor to the continued development of technology as a learning tool in the schools in his district, which is [SAU #70](#), a cross-border School Administrative Unit with neighboring New Hampshire. Minelli works chiefly in Marion Cross Elementary School in Norwich. Read the press release here: <http://bit.ly/1lCtgK9>.

**Contact:** Peter Drescher, Education Technology Coordinator, 802-479-1169 or [peter.drescher@state.vt.us](mailto:peter.drescher@state.vt.us)

#### SBAC Technology Readiness Tool closing, but schools may download reports until July 31, 2014.

##### Audience: Tech Coordinators, Principals, SBAC-related Faculty

##### **Deadline: August 1, 2014**

The [Tech Readiness Tool](#) will no longer be available after August 1, 2014. As of June 13, locals are no longer able to enter data, but reports can be accessed until July 31. In Vermont, we will download final output in late June, so please take the time to download any relevant reports prior to that date via the Tech Readiness Tool: <http://bit.ly/1pmRXdw>.

**Contact:** Peter Drescher, Education Technology Coordinator, 802-479-1169 or [peter.drescher@state.vt.us](mailto:peter.drescher@state.vt.us)

## Spotlight on Agency Contact Info: Career Technical Education

### Audience: All

The Career Technical Education (CTE) team can be reached as follows:

- Jay Ramsey, CTE Workgroup Coordinator, 802-479-1343 or [jay.ramsey@state.vt.us](mailto:jay.ramsey@state.vt.us)
- Doug Webster, CTE Consultant, 802-479-1295 or [doug.webster@state.vt.us](mailto:doug.webster@state.vt.us)
- Suzanne Arrand, CTE Database Coordinator, 802-479-1269 or [suzanne.arrand@state.vt.us](mailto:suzanne.arrand@state.vt.us)
- <http://education.vermont.gov/career-and-technical-education> (web)
- 219 North Main Street | Suite 402 | Barre, VT 05641 (physical and mailing address)

The Agency's website lists our contact information: <http://education.vermont.gov/contact>

## AOE Communication

### Audience: All

Our press releases, field memos, calendar of events, and more are online: <http://bit.ly/11ajrtH>. View our strategic plan here: <http://bit.ly/1cZbMBP>. Connect with the AOE on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

**Contact:** Angela Ross, Public Information Officer, 802-479-1240 or [angela.ross@state.vt.us](mailto:angela.ross@state.vt.us)

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## EDUCATOR QUALITY:

### 2014 Renewals

**Audience:** Superintendents, Principals, and Human Resources Personnel

**Deadline:** June 30, 2014

The 2014 renewal cycle will close June 30, 2014. Processing of renewal applications is taking several weeks and is expected to continue through July 2014. Educators renewing their license(s) in 2014 should be 'held harmless' considering verification of licensure for employment. Superintendents, Principals and Human Resource officers can visit the [Vermont Online Licensing System for Educators](#) to check on an educator's **current** credentials by following [this procedure](#).

**Contact:** Susan Yesalonia, Education Programs Manager, 802-479-1723 or [susan.yesalonia@state.vt.us](mailto:susan.yesalonia@state.vt.us)

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## SCHOOL HEALTH, WELLNESS & NUTRITION:

### Summer Meals Programs

**Audience:** Principals, School Administrators, & School Nurses

The school break at summer can be a very long time if you are one of the students that depends heavily on the nutrition from daily school meals. To support these students, summer education and activity programs, many schools and local organizations are sponsoring the Summer Meals Program at various schools and locations around the state. Please share the Open Site Meal List where children may show up and receive a breakfast and/or lunch. Click [here](#) for a list of the open meals sites.

**Contact:** Nancy Lewis, SFSP Coordinator, 802-479-1207 or [nancy.lewis@state.vt.us](mailto:nancy.lewis@state.vt.us)

### Linking Health & Learning: June 2014 Bulletin

**Audience:** All

The [final issue](#) of the 2013-2014 school year includes announcements of school wellness awards, Green Ribbon Schools, upcoming webinars and credit-bearing courses offered this summer. The AOT is seeking proposals for a grant to improve access and safety for bicyclists and/or pedestrians through the

planning, design and construction of infrastructure projects. [Click here](#) to read the June 2014 bulletin.

**Contact:** Lindsay Simpson, PE Coordinator, 802-479-1476 or [lindsay.simpson@state.vt.us](mailto:lindsay.simpson@state.vt.us)

### **Vermont Munch Times**

#### **Audience: All**

The June 13, 2014 issue is now online: <http://bit.ly/113cUcb>. Topics include Whole Grain Myths, Policy Updates, Administrative Reviews for 2014-2015, Child Nutrition Programs Summer Institute Registration, Recipe of the Month, and VT Higher Education Collaborative: Nutrition & Food Education Course. View past issues here: <http://bit.ly/19mOFA6>.

**Contact:** Marianna Charalabopoulos, Nutrition, 802-479-1254 or [marianna.charalabopoulos@state.vt.us](mailto:marianna.charalabopoulos@state.vt.us)

### **Safe Schools Blog – Sharing Voices from the Field**

#### **Audience: All**

We added new voices to our [Let's Talk About School Safety](#) blog!

- Doug Davis, Burlington School Food Project: <http://bit.ly/1pIYWIR>
- Adam Bunting, Montpelier High School Principal: <http://bit.ly/1uDdxKd>
- Mark Moody, SRO & Safe Schools Consultant: <http://bit.ly/1njX4YS>
- Tracey Tsugawa, Civil Rights Investigator: <http://bit.ly/SUfxBL>
- Kathleen Bassett Cramer, Alburgh Community School Counselor: <http://bit.ly/1iH1QNh>

Check out the blog here: <http://education.vermont.gov/lets-talk-education>. Interested in contributing?

Please contact Angela Ross via [email](#).

**Contact:** Angela Ross, Public Information Officer, 802-479-1240 or [angela.ross@state.vt.us](mailto:angela.ross@state.vt.us)

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## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

### **President Obama's ConnectED Initiative Offers Support from Private-Sector Partners**

#### **Audience: Tech Coordinators, Principals, Superintendents, Business Managers**

[SETDA](#) offers directory of President Obama's [ConnectED initiative](#). Vermont schools encouraged to check out resources here: <http://bit.ly/1vsirMo>.

**Contact:** Peter Drescher, Education Technology Coordinator, 802-479-1169 or [peter.drescher@state.vt.us](mailto:peter.drescher@state.vt.us)

### **Standard for Mathematical Practice and the Science and Engineering Practices (CCSSM)**

#### **Audience: All Mathematics/Science Educators**

Hands2Mind is offering a free three-part summer webinar mini-series that will explore connections between the mathematical practices and the science and engineering practices and implications for instruction. Register at <http://goo.gl/eR5G9a>.

**Contact:** Tracy Watterson, Elementary Mathematics, 802-479-1353 at [tracy.watterson@state.vt.us](mailto:tracy.watterson@state.vt.us)

### **VSI Science and Engineering Academy-Energy and Engineering**

#### **Audience: Administrators, K-8 Educators**

The Vermont Science Initiative (VSI) is offering sustained support for K-8 teachers this summer. The institutes will focus on energy, provide support through PLCs and additional content through the NSTA Learning Center. Teachers will deepen their understanding of science and engineering content. Learn more here: <http://tinyurl.com/qhmfv8b>

**Contacts:** Renee Affolter, VSI, [raffolter.vtscience@gmail.com](mailto:raffolter.vtscience@gmail.com); Maura O'Brien, VSI, [mauraobrienscienced@gmail.com](mailto:mauraobrienscienced@gmail.com); Pat Fitzsimmons, AOE, 802- 479-1425 or [pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us](mailto:pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us)

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## STANDARDS & ASSESSMENTS:



### Common Core State Standards (CCSS): Resources on the Agency's Website

#### Audience: All

Check out our Common Core website; resources are added on a weekly basis: <http://bit.ly/1m9D7b4>.

[Click here](#) to learn more about CCSS ELA and [click here](#) to learn more about CCSS Mathematics.

**Contacts:** Pat Fitzsimmons, Common Core Coordinator, [pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us](mailto:pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us); Lori Dolezal, Elementary Literacy Coordinator, [lori.dolezal@state.vt.us](mailto:lori.dolezal@state.vt.us); Kris Breen, Secondary Literacy Coordinator, [kris.breen@state.vt.us](mailto:kris.breen@state.vt.us); Tracy Watterson, Math Coordinator, [tracy.watterson@state.vt.us](mailto:tracy.watterson@state.vt.us)



### Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS): FAQ

#### Audience: All

What is the maximum number of students you should have in your science laboratory? How much space should be available for each student? [Click here](#) to read the answer. To access information about maintaining safe science classrooms click here: <http://goo.gl/CCVUeN>.

**Contacts:** Gail Hall, Middle-High School Science, 802-479-1284 or [gail.hall@state.vt.us](mailto:gail.hall@state.vt.us); Kathy Renfrew, K-5 Science, 802-479-1448 or [kathy.renfrew@state.vt.us](mailto:kathy.renfrew@state.vt.us)



### Smarter Balanced (SBAC) Assessment

#### Audience: All

Check out our Smarter Balanced website; resources added regularly: <http://education.vermont.gov/sbac>.

**Contacts:** Michael Hock, State Assessment Director, 802-479-1288 or [michael.hock@state.vt.us](mailto:michael.hock@state.vt.us); Mary Ann Minardo, Teacher Outreach Coordinator, 802-479-1309 or [maryann.minardo@state.vt.us](mailto:maryann.minardo@state.vt.us); Frank Gerdeman, ISL -Secondary & Adult Assistant Director, 802-479-1381 or [frank.gerdeman@state.vt.us](mailto:frank.gerdeman@state.vt.us)

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## OTHER EDUCATION NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS:

### Enhancing Professional Practice through Student Learning Objectives

#### Audience: All

[Vermont-NEA](#) has been the recipient of a Great Public Schools (GPS) Fund Grant from the NEA to develop expertise in the state on Student Learning Objectives. This training, keynoted by Dr. Laura Goe from ETS, will provide 24 hours of relicensing credit and is **free** for all participants. The process enables teachers to document evidence of effective instruction by systematically determining student growth on important standards through a unit of study. Learn more and register here: <http://bit.ly/1l3gxPi>.

**Contact:** Julie Longchamp, Vermont-NEA, 802-224-2421 or [jlongchamp@vtnea.org](mailto:jlongchamp@vtnea.org)

### What it really means to Take Care of Yourself This Summer

#### Audience: All School Employees

Your Employee Assistance Program, INVEST EAP is available (free member benefit provided by VEHI) all year. Many school employees find the time to contact the EAP and attend to personal matters during the summer. If you would like to learn more about how EAP can support you with concerns regarding:

relationships, stress, anxiety, eldercare, legal troubles, financial challenges or any other topic causing you to worry- then give us a call! Learn more here: [www.investeap.org](http://www.investeap.org) (password: *vsbit*).

**Contact:** INVEST EAP at 800-287-2173

### **Host an International High School Exchange Student Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State** **Audience: All**

The U.S. Department of State invites you to make a difference by hosting an international high school exchange student in your school or home starting this fall. Learn more or submit an interest form at [hosting.state.gov](http://hosting.state.gov) and please share this announcement with others.

**Contact:** U.S. Department of State Youth Programs Division at [youthprograms@state.gov](mailto:youthprograms@state.gov)

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This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Vermont Agency of Education (VT-AOE) to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the Agency will still be sent. In addition, the VT-AOE Weekly Field Memo is [archived](#) on the Agency of Education website. For information which is three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Angela Ross, Public Information Officer, at (802) 479-1240 or [angela.ross@state.vt.us](mailto:angela.ross@state.vt.us).

**Sign up for the weekly field memo here:** [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field\\_memo.html](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html)

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